

FILED IN THE  
U.S. DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

May 09, 2025

SEAN F. McAVOY, CLERK

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
EASTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

ROSALLIO SANTELLAN-  
HERNANDEZ,

Defendant.

NO: 2:22-CR-0117-TOR-1

ORDER DENYING DEFENDANT'S  
MOTION UNDER 28 U.S.C. § 2255

BEFORE THE COURT is Defendant's *pro se* Motion Under 28 U.S.C. § 2255 to Vacate, Set Aside, or Correct Sentence. ECF No. 62. The Court has reviewed the record and files herein and is fully informed. Because the files and records of the case conclusively show that Defendant is entitled to no relief, the Government was not ordered to respond. *See* 28 U.S.C. § 2255(b). For the reasons discussed below, the Court **denies** the motion to vacate.

**BACKGROUND**

On January 3, 2024, Defendant appeared before the Court and entered a plea of guilty to the Indictment charging him with Possession with Intent to Distribute

1 50 Grams or more of Actual (Pure) Methamphetamine. ECF No. 48. According to  
2 the Plea Agreement, Defendant expressly waived his right to file any post-  
3 conviction motion attacking his conviction and sentence including a motion  
4 pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2255, except one based upon ineffective assistance of  
5 counsel based on information not known by the Defendant. *Id.* at ¶ 18.

6 A Presentence Investigative Report (PSIR) was prepared in this case. It  
7 calculated Defendant's total offense level as 31, with a criminal history category I,  
8 and an advisory guideline imprisonment range as 120 to 135 months. Defendant  
9 was sentenced to 120-months incarceration and 5 years of supervised release. ECF  
10 No. 60.

11 On April 7, 2025, Defendant filed the instant motion seeking to vacate, set  
12 aside or correct his sentence pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2255. ECF No. 62.

### 13 DISCUSSION

14 The Court finds that the issues raised do not require an evidentiary hearing.  
15 *See* Rule 8, Rules—Section 2255 Proceedings. The transcripts, records and  
16 materials filed in this proceeding adequately document the issues for resolution.

#### 17 **A. Waiver of Rights to Appeal and File Any Post-Conviction Motion**

18 This Court finds Defendant waived his right to file the instant motion.  
19 Defendant expressly waived his right to file any post-conviction motion attacking  
20 his conviction and sentence including a motion pursuant to 28 U.S.C. § 2255,

1 except one based upon ineffective assistance of counsel based on information not  
2 known by the Defendant. ECF No. 48 at ¶ 18.

3 A defendant's waiver of his rights to appeal and to bring a collateral attack is  
4 generally enforced if "(1) the language of the waiver encompasses his right to  
5 appeal on the grounds raised, and (2) the waiver is knowingly and voluntarily  
6 made." *Davies v. Benov*, 856 F.3d 1243, 1246 (9th Cir. 2017) (citation omitted).

### 7 **B. Motion to Vacate, Set Aside or Correct Sentence**

8 Title 28 U.S.C. § 2255 provides four grounds under which a federal court  
9 may grant relief to a federal prisoner who challenges a sentence of incarceration:  
10 (1) "that the sentence was imposed in violation of the Constitution of laws of the  
11 United States;" (2) "that the court was without jurisdiction to impose such  
12 sentence;" (3) "that the sentence was in excess of the maximum authorized by  
13 law;" and (4) that the sentence "is otherwise subject to collateral attack[.]" 28  
14 U.S.C. § 2255(a). The Supreme Court has repeatedly interpreted this to encompass  
15 only errors that constitute a "fundamental defect which inherently results in a  
16 complete miscarriage of justice" or "an omission inconsistent with the rudimentary  
17 demands of fair procedure." *United States v. Timmreck*, 441 U.S. 780, 783 (1979)  
18 (quoting *Hill v. United States*, 368 U.S. 424, 428 (1962)). While the remedy is in  
19 this sense comprehensive, it does not encompass all claimed errors in conviction  
20 and sentencing. *United States v. Addonizio*, 442 U.S. 178, 185 (1979).

1 Defendant complains that his counsel was ineffective at the plea stage, at  
2 sentencing, and by not filing an appeal. ECF No. 62. Defendant wrote that a  
3 “Supporting Memorandum of Facts and Law to follow.” Defendant has not filed  
4 such a memorandum. A thorough review of Defendant’s Plea Agreement indicates  
5 that Defendant waived his right to file any post-conviction motion. Defendant has  
6 presented no facts or argument that would support his claims.

7 Accordingly, Defendant has not established a constitutional violation or  
8 other right to relief.

### 9 **C. Certificate of Appealability**

10 A petitioner seeking post-conviction relief may appeal a district court’s  
11 dismissal of the court’s final order in a proceeding under 28 U.S.C. § 2255 only  
12 after obtaining a certificate of appealability (“COA”) from a district or circuit  
13 judge. 28 U.S.C. § 2253(c)(1)(B). A COA may issue only where the applicant has  
14 made “a substantial showing of the denial of a constitutional right.” *See id.*  
15 § 2253(c)(2). To satisfy this standard, the applicant must “show that reasonable  
16 jurists could debate whether (or, for that matter, agree that) the petition should  
17 have been resolved in a different manner or that the issues presented were adequate  
18 to deserve encouragement to proceed further.” *Miller-El v. Cockrell*, 537 U.S.  
19 322, 336 (2003) (internal quotation marks and citation omitted).

1 The Court concludes that Defendant is not entitled to a COA because he has  
2 not demonstrated that jurists of reason could disagree with this Court's resolution  
3 or conclude the issues presented deserve encouragement to proceed further.

4 **ACCORDINGLY, IT IS HEREBY ORDERED:**

5 1. Defendant's Motion to Vacate, Set Aside, or Correct Sentence under 28

6 U.S.C. § 2255 (ECF No. 62) is **DENIED**.

7 2. The Court further certifies that there is no basis upon which to issue a

8 certificate of appealability and the same is **DENIED**. 28 U.S.C. § 2253(c);

9 Fed. R. App. P. 22(b).

10 The District Court Executive is hereby directed to enter this Order and  
11 furnish copies to the parties. This file and the corresponding civil file (2:25-CV-  
12 0114-TOR) shall be **CLOSED**.

13 **DATED** May 9, 2025.



15 *Thomas O. Rice*

16 THOMAS O. RICE  
17 United States District Judge  
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